I HAVE AN ANNOUNCEMENT TO MAKE.
I, ODA NOBUNAGA,
AM GOING TO BE FRIENDS WITH AZAI NAGAMASA-SAN!!!
SFX: SPARKLE
Hah?

#8

why...
And that's
... Nagamasa-san has come to my castle. I regretfully invited him to do so.

Yes.
That day was the start of it all...
BE FRIENDS... YOU SAY?
WITH AN ENEMY GENERAL?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
DON'T TELL ME YOU FELL IN LOVE WITH HIM AFTER HIS FEROCIOUS ATTACK A COUPLE DAYS AGO?
NO, NO, NO!!
THAT'S NOT IT.
BUT I HAVE DECIDED THAT...
I WON'T KILL PEOPLE FOR THE PURPOSE OF TAKING OVER THE WORLD!
WELL, BASICALLY, I'LL ACHIEVE WORLD DOMINATION WITHOUT ANY FIGHTING, OKAY?
FOR THAT, I THINK IT'S BEST IF I MAKE AS MANY FRIENDS AS POSSIBLE.

KARIN-DONO...
to know
my decision.
PLEASE LEAVE IT TO ME, JUST THIS ONCE
IN ORDER TO FULFILL MY BROTHER'S DREAM...
I wanted the people who served my late brother, and are my closest allies,
THAT'S WHY I'M SPEAKING TO THE CHIEF'S VASSALS WHO KNOW MY SECRET AS WELL.
ERRR
I WONDER..
IT'S ALRIGHT, ISN'T IT?
ISN'T IT?
... WE SHOULD MOVE SINCERELY AND CAUTIOUSLY, SHOULDN'T WE...?

... is what they said, urging me from behind...
"Show us what you've got, Lord."
I FEEL SINCERELY HONORED...
W-WHAT A RELIEF!
YEP.
I-IS THAT SO!?
WHA!?
TO HAVE BEEN PERSONALLY INVITED HERE BY NOBUNAGA-SAMA HIMSELF
SFX HMPH!
You have to show the spirit of your hospitality
Karin,
In order to become friends,
I'll first follow my brother's special technique: hospitality and delicious tea.
BE FRIENDS
BE FRIENDS
BE FRIENDS

I'm going to catch hold of Nagamasa-san's heart!!
H-
HOW'S THE TEA!?
IT'S DELICIOUS.
Furthermore, this is a game of clever conversation
NOBU-NAGA-SAMA?
to help out the village.
SFX: PASSIONATE
GULP
Friendship!
NOD
Smile
W... WELCOME TO OWARI!!
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
GULP
UM..... ERR!! ....
Smile
YES.
GULP
T-THE WEATHER IS NICE, ISN'T IT!?
NOD
Smile
YES.
Friendship!!
Smile
....
Friendship!!
UM! H-HOW HAVE YOU BEEN, RECENTLY !?
GULP
NOD
I HAVE BEEN DOING VERY WELL.
Smile
Smile

Friend....ship.....

AH... UMM. SHALL WE GO OUTSIDE...?

OH, THIS IS A LOVELY GARDEN.

Somehow,
my attempts to have a decent conversation have failed.
They followed her
whisper
ARE YOU OKAY?
I-I'M FINE!!
I CAME OUT HERE WITHOUT BEING ABLE TO DO ANY-THING...
T-THANK YOU...
I WONDER IF MAKING FRIENDS WITH PEOPLE WAS ALWAYS THIS DIFFICULT...
How was it back then?
I was able to get along with people really well at that time.

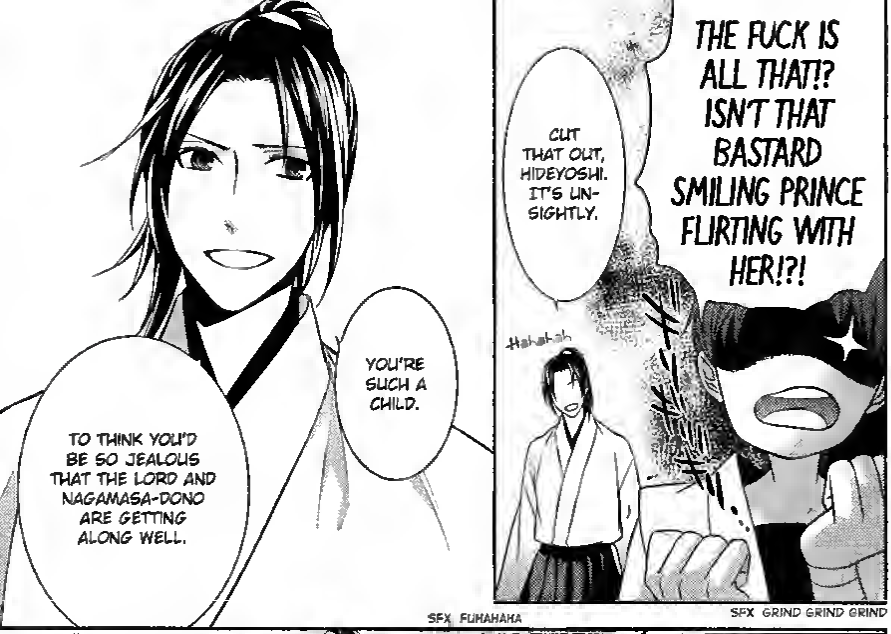
You're quite devoted, aren't you?
!!
BHHN
The demon...!
This is all to lead Nagamasa to his inevitable death, isn't it?
SFX: GLARE
Are you planning to get him drunk on your own and then assassinate him in his sleep?
KUKU
Women sure are scary.
GASP
DON'T SAY THAT!
IT'S NOT WHAT YOU'RE THINKING AT ALL.
GO AWAY.
...Hmph.

Can you make me?
I told you before,
You cannot violate our contract.
I will enjoy punishing you for opposing me to my heart's content.
!
SFX PULL
?
L-LET GO!!
SORR...
AH, NO, IT'S NOTHING.
HM!?
SFX: SHOVE

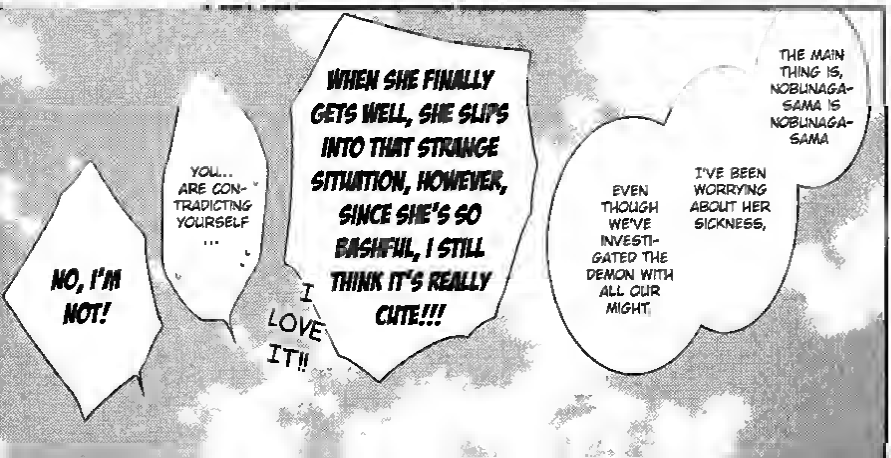
SFX (TOP): BUMP
SFX (BOTTOM): GLEAM
STUMBLE
WAH.
!
NOBUNAGA-SAMA!

ARE YOU OKAY?
!
WAH...
NOBUNAGA-SAMA?
WAH
WAAAH

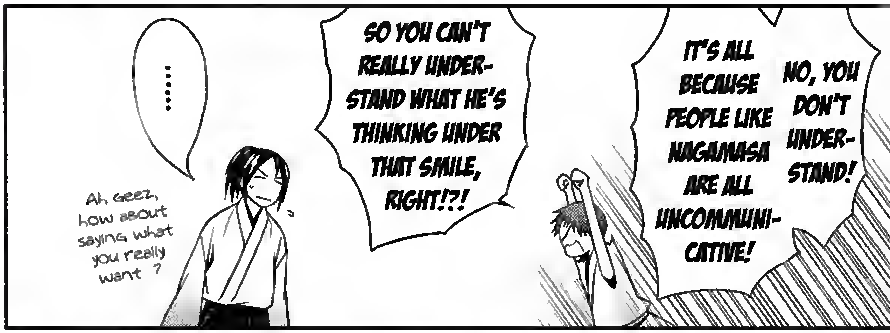
glance
smirk
I'M.. FINE
THANK YOU..
SFX: GRIND


TO THINK YOU'D BE SO JEALOUS THAT THE LORD AND NAGAMASA-DONO ARE GETTING ALONG WELL.
YOU'RE SUCH A CHILD.
CUT THAT OUT, HIDEYOSHI. IT'S UN-SIGHTLY.
THE FUCK IS ALL THAT!? ISN'T THAT BASTARD SMILING PRINCE FLIRTING WITH HER!?!
Hahahah
SFX FUHAHAHA
SFX GRIND GRIND GRIND

SFX SPEW!!
You're showing your irritation in exactly the same way, aren't you!?

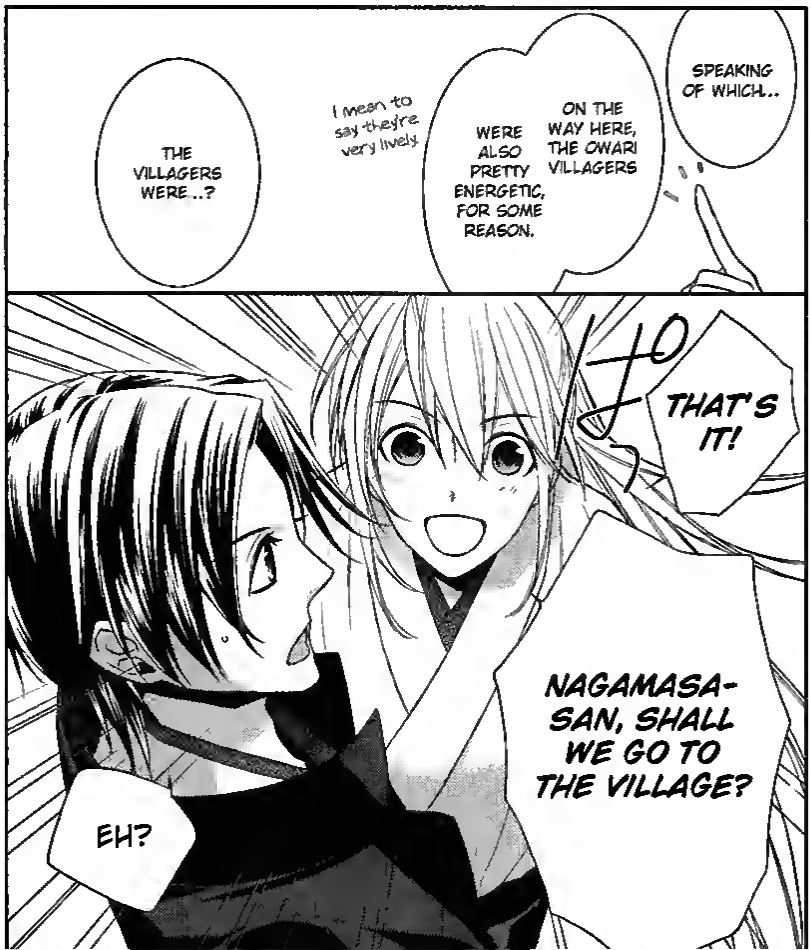

NO, I'M NOT!
YOU... ARE CON-TRADICTING YOURSELF ...
I LOVE IT!!
WHEN SHE FINALLY GETS WELL, SHE SLIPS INTO THAT STRANGE SITUATION, HOWEVER, SINCE SHE'S SO BASHFUL, I STILL THINK IT'S REALLY CUTE!!!
EVEN THOUGH WE'VE INVESTI-GATED THE DEMON WITH ALL OUR MIGHT
I'VE BEEN WORRYING ABOUT HER SICKNESS,
THE MAIN THING IS, NOBUNAGA-SAMA IS NOBUNAGA-SAMA

IT'S BECAUSE KARIN IS A GIRL!!
... I UNDERSTAND.


NO, YOU DON'T UNDER-STAND!
IT'S ALL BECAUSE PEOPLE LIKE NAGAMASA ARE ALL UNCOMMUNI-CATIVE!
SO YOU CAN'T REALLY UNDER-STAND WHAT HE'S THINKING UNDER THAT SMILE, RIGHT!?!
.....
Ah, geez, how about saying what you really want ?

.....

He can't hear them.
I can feel the passionate looks in their eyes.
THOSE TWO ARE REALLY ENTHUSIASTIC, AREN'T THEY?
Sorry
THEY'RE PRETTY BOISTER-OUS...


SPEAKING OF WHICH..
ON THE WAY HERE, THE OWARI VILLAGERS
WERE ALSO PRETTY ENERGETIC, FOR SOME REASON.
I mean to say they're very lively.
THE VILLAGERS WERE..?
THAT'S IT!
NAGAMASA-SAN, SHALL WE GO TO THE VILLAGE?
EH?

EH, EH?
WELL, IT'S SETTLED. LET'S GO!
I had a bad feeling about this
shudder
EH?
SINCE YOU WENT OUT OF YOUR WAY JUST TO COME TO OWARI...
SFX: FWOOSH
SFX: THUMP
Whaaaaa!?
NOBU-NAGA-SAMA!!

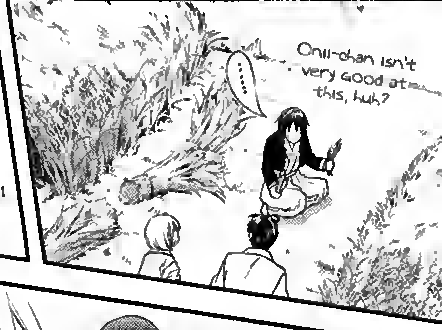
AHH!
SFX: YAAAAY
NOBU-NAGA-SAMA!
WE WERE WAITING FOR YOU!!
SFX: CLOMP CLOMP
EVERY-ONE!
NOBU-NAGA-SAMA!
SFX: GLOW
Long time no see!
IT SURE HAS BEEN. HAVE YOU BEEN WELL?
We haven't seen you in so long!
SORRY ABOUT THAT. IT WAS QUITE BUSY AROUND THE CASTLE.
Let's play, let's play.
Our boastful idiot lord has returned!
Hahaha!

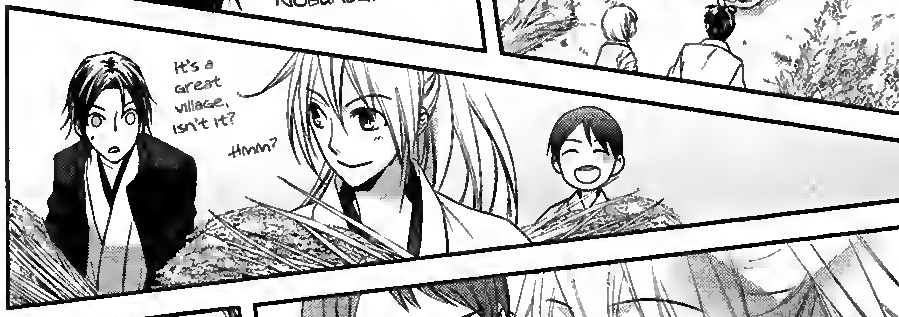
NII-CHAN,
YOU'RE ALSO NOBUNAGA-SAMA'S FRIEND, AREN'T YOU?
UM, YEAH, I GUESS.
WELL THEN, GET IN THE FIELD, GET IN!

SFX: PULL
WE'RE SO BUSY, WE'D EVEN GET CATS TO WORK FOR US, IF THEY COULD.
WHAAA !?

SFX: SHOCK
WHA!?
I'LL HELP OUT, SINCE IT'S HARVEST SEASON!
Seriously?
That'd be a great help!

SFX: ZCH ZCH ZCH ZCH ZCH ZCH ZCH
Kyaah, Kyaaah,
Amazing!!
As expected of Nobunaga-sama!


Onii-chan isn't very good at this, huh?


It's a great village, isn't it?
Hmm?

.....

Good work today. Here's some rice balls.
GOOD JOB.
pat
Hey there!
Yo!
もぐもぐ
もぐもぐ
SFX: MUNCH MUNCH
DO YOU LIKE THIS VILLAGE AND NOBUNAGA-SAMA?
I love them!
Yep.
——IN THE END, I WAS FORCED TO HELP OUT.

BUT... WHEN DID YOU START HELPING OUT WITH SUCH THINGS, NOBUNAGA-SAMA?
ERR...
THANK YOU.
DON'T MENTION IT. IT WAS FUN, AFTER ALL.
YOU DID A GOOD JOB, AND IT SEEMS YOU KNOW ALL THE TERRAIN AND MINOR DETAILS OF THE VILLAGE REALLY WELL.
AND I LIVED HERE.
N-NIH, IT'S JUST THAT I USED TO GO RIDING AROUND THIS AREA A LOT IN THE PAST.
But Brother also did so.
BECAUSE OF THAT, THE VILLAGERS ALL CALL ME THE "IDIOT LORD".
Haha!
OH, I HEARD THAT EARLIER.
I remember my brother's words...
THEY ARE SUPPORTING OWARI.
THEY WATCH THE WEATHER, TOUCH THE EARTH AND COME IN CONTACT WITH THE CROPS
—THE VILLAGERS HOLD EVERY FREE MINUTE DEAR

I REALLY LOVE THOSE TYPES OF PEOPLE.
EVERYONE IS SOCIABLE AND GOOD.
THEY'RE ALSO LIVING STRONGLY.
They are what my brother onced loved as well.
THEY ARE WHAT I WANT TO PROTECT.
THIS PERSON...
AND I'M SURE THAT THE PEOPLE OF YOUR COUNTRY ARE EQUALLY SPECTACULAR, NAGAMASA-DONO.
I WANTED YOU TO EXPERIENCE THAT WITHOUT FAIL.
THE COUNTRY I'M MANAGING IS SUCH A SPECTACULAR PLACE

I HAD NEVER BEFORE CONSIDERED GOING DOWN INTO THE VILLAGES AND FEELING THE WIND ALONG WITH THE RESIDENTS.
I THINK YOUR IDEAS ARE MAGNIFICENT, NOBUNAGA-SAMA.
.....!
SECLUDING ONESELF IN THE CASTLE WON'T BRING ABOUT A NEW ERA FOR THE VILLAGERS.
EH?
SHOCK!
I ENDED UP JUST BEING A HINDRANCE.
I tried my best to follow along but... Sorry about that
TODAY YOU WERE SOMEWHAT EARNEST AND REFINED, NOBUNAGA-SAMA.
HONESTLY, ...
THAT WAS MY BROTHER..!
WITH A STRONG AIR AND A DIGNIFIED MANNER. BUT THE REALITY IS DIFFERENT.
FROM WHAT I'D HEARD, I HAD THE IMPRESSION OF A NOBUNAGA

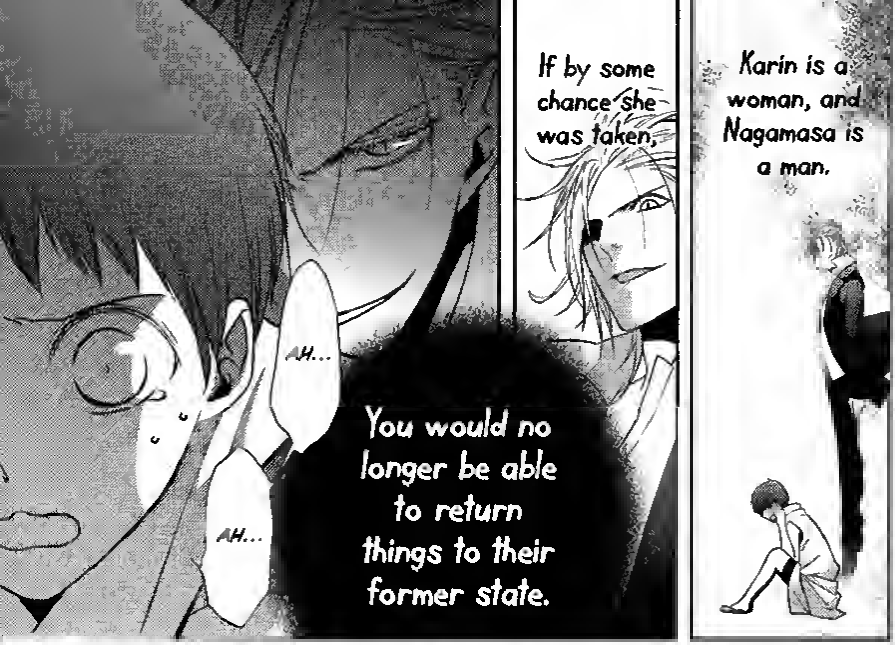
BUT I WAS ABLE TO COME TO THIS VILLAGE AND SEE THE FORM OF A LIVELY NOBUNAGA.
I THINK YOU SHOWED ME YOUR TRUE SELF.
AND NOT ONLY THAT, YOU ALSO TOLD ME THE THINGS YOU HOLD DEAR.
IT'S REALLY BROKEN MY SPIRIT.
BUT ABOVE ALL ELSE, I'M REALLY HAPPY.

T/N: Here, "Spirit" can also be read as "heart." "If read as "spirit," it's as if he lost his spirit to be enemies, which makes sense from the historical story. Nagamasa looked up to Nobunaga, even though they were enemies. If read as "heart," it implies something about the romance here, since Kaori likes him

NEXT TIME,
PLEASE LISTEN TO MY STORY.
HUH?
WOULD IT BE OKAY IF I COME AGAIN FOR TEA?
...!
Even without pushing myself, if I take action while considering others,
then the circle of people around me will grow.
... OF COURSE!

SFX: SPARKLE
"IS IT...
OKAY TO COME AGAIN?"
SFX: THUD
AH, GEEZ!
WHAT A FUCKING SHOW-OFF!
I WAS WORRIED AFTER SHE SUDDENLY FLEW OUT OF THE CASTLE, AND EVEN THOUGH I SECRETLY FOLLOWED HER,
IN THE END, THOSE TWO ARE PLAYING TOGETHER HAPPILY...
NOBU-NAGA-SAMA IS THE SAME...
WHAT'S GOING ON?
SFX: RUSTLE

It's quite trouble-some, isn't it?
Ah, that's right.
Even though she's important to me...
The person important to you might get snatched away.


If by some chance she was taken,
Karin is a woman, and Nagamasa is a man.
AH...
AH...
You would no longer be able to return things to their former state.

Enrage your thoughts and disturb your heart.
Yes, yes.
Become flustered.

SFX: TREMBLE
Karin, watch closely. Now, it's going to rain blood.
NO WAY...
NO WAY
NOBU-NAGA-SAMA WITH NAGA-MASA !—?
SFX: GLEAM
Kuku, love is also a battle.
Love and hate are two sides of the same coin.

Now then,
It's the beginning of a maddening, ugly battle.
She's going to be stolen from me...
This is awful...
I HAVE TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THIS!

FALLEN SYNDICATE

presents

Sengoku Blood

by Hiroi Ohji (story) and Kosumi Fujiko (art)

SCANNING: Mai-Lynn

TRANSLATING: Morbid_Charade

PROOFREADING: Maddelyne

CLEANING: Pachoin

REDRAWING: Pachoin, Rukayex

TYPESETTING: Rukayex

QUALITY CHECKING: Rukayex

http://fallensyndicate.com

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